

Effective March 1998 Rev. 1/1/01

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR U.S. PATENT APPLICATION

() Original () Supplemental () Substitute (X) PCT () Design

| s a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are | as stated |
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| I varily believe that I am the original first and sale inventor (if only one name is listed below) or | an orioir |

d below next to my name; that I verily believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the

| | COUNTRY | APPLICATION NO. | DATE OF FILING | PRIORITY | |
|--------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|------------------|----|
| | I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, '119 (and '172 if this application is for a Design) of application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any application for patent or inventoristicate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed: | | | | |
| | I acknowledge my duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, '1.56. | | | | ıs |
| | I hereby state that I have reviewed and u any amendment(s) referred to above. | nderstand the content of the above-identified | d specification, including the claim | ns, as amended b | у |
| e man same e | and with amendments through (if applicable), or (X) the specification in International Application No. PCT/JP/01800, filed _March 23,2000, and as amended on (if applicable). | | | | |
| dent Ann | () the attached specification, or () the specification in the application Ser | ial No filed | · | | |
| dans) | of which is described and claimed in: | | | | |
| | Title. CERAINETRODUCT CSED W. | (III WAILKAND METHOD OF STANKA | ESIGNAT TREATMENT TREE | <u>uli ok</u> | |
| | Title: CERAMIC PRODUCT USED WITH WATER AND METHOD OF STAIN RESISTANT TREATMENT THEREFOR | | | | |

| COUNTRY | APPLICATION NO. | DATE OF FILING | PRIORITY CLAIMED |
|---------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Japan | 11-97010 | April 02, 1999 | Yes |
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I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code '120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code '112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, '1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

| APPLICATION SERIAL NO. | U.S. FILING DATE | STATUS: PATENTED, PENDING, ABANDONED |
|------------------------|------------------|---|
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And I hereby appoint Michael R. Davis, Reg. No. 25,134; Matthew M. Jacob, Reg. No. 25,154; Warren M. Cheek, Jr., Reg. No. 33,367; Nils Pedersen, Reg. No. 33,145; Charles R. Watts, Reg. No. 33,142; and Michael S. Huppert, Reg. No. 40,268, who together constitute the firm of WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P., as well as any other attorneys and agents associated with Customer No. 000513, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

I hereby authorize the U.S. attorneys and agents named herein to accept and follow instructions from AKATSUKI UNION PATENT FIRM as to any action to be taken in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorneys and myself. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorneys named herein will be so notified by me.

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